WHAT IS CLAIMED IS:

1. A method for interpreting input on a X input multistage HVAC & R system to control Y stages of said system, wherein Y is greater than X, comprising the steps of:

receiving input from X inputs;

translating said input into a binary system having Y binary outputs; and

controlling said system based upon said binary outputs.

- 2. The method of claim 1, wherein said system has 2 inputs and 3 stages, and wherein said binary outputs allow said system to be operated with each of 0, 1, 2 and 3 of said stages active.
- 3. The method of claim 1, wherein said stages are vapor compression circuits.
- 4. The method of claim 1, wherein said stages are adapted to provide at lest one of heating, cooling and combinations thereof.
- 5. The method of claim 1, wherein said stages include both heating and cooling stages.
 - 6. An HVAC & R system, comprising:

a multi-stage system having X inputs; and Y stages, and wherein Y is greater than X; and

a processor adapted to receive said X inputs, translate said X inputs into a binary system, and use said binary system to control said Y stages.

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- 7. The system of claim 6, wherein said system has 2 inputs and 3 stages, and wherein said binary outputs allow said system to be operated with each of 0, 1, 2 and 3 of said stages active.
- 8. The system of claim 6, wherein said stages are vapor compression circuits.
- 9. The system of claim 6, wherein said stages are adapted to provide at lest one of heating, cooling and combinations thereof.
- 10. The system of claim 6, wherein said stages include both heating and cooling stages.
- 11. The system of claim 6, further comprising an input member communicated with said system for providing said X input to said processor.